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The Niagara Advance

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Thursday, February 21, 2013

One Billion Rising

$1,140 raised for Gillian's Place

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Where students become family

Instructor reflects on years of teaching

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Rangers wrap–up

get it online

Students welcome new Canadians

PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

Students at Crossroads Public School enthusiastically greet new Canadians as they are introduced at a citizenship ceremony held at the school Friday.

Spirited, warm welcome makes citizenship ceremony at Crossroads special for those sworn in

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Thirty-one new Canadians from 18 countries received the warmest and most enthusiastic welcome imaginable as 400 spirited students rewarded each of them with wholehearted applause, waving their Canadian flags in excitement.

Former Niagara Falls Mayor Ted Salci, now a citizenship judge, presided over a citizenship swearing-in ceremony at Crossroads Public School Friday, giving the students an opportunity to learn about their heritage, and what it means to be a Canadian.

The ceremony at the school was put into motion by Steven Zaporzan, an English as a Second Language teacher who spends the majority of his time teaching at Crossroads.

"I thought that the school would be a perfect location for such an event. Crossroads has many ESL students, who are expertly supported by a kind, caring, and professional staff," said Zaporzan.

See Page 2

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New park for one of changes to The Cannary subdivision in St. Davids

Subdivision in St. Davids moves forward with draft approval given to new property owner

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The view for many St. Davids residents will change, but none more so than a couple who enjoy their front porch in the warm weather, looking out toward the escarpment and Queenston Heights.

Tricia Weaver and Jeff Vreeken live on Line 9, at the corner of Four Mile Creek Road.

They used to be able to look out their front windows and see orchards, but the fruit trees are long gone, and in their place is a big, empty field and in the distance, the industrial buildings that used to be the cannery.

Soon, their view of the field will be replaced by The Cannery, a development of 235 homes, and the escarpment and the Brock Monument they can see in the distance will be obscured by roof lines.

The village has grown in leaps and bounds since the implementation of the sewer system about a decade ago, with new homes built and many more on the books.

At the time sewers were installed, there were 270 homes in the village.

By the end of 2012, another 244 had been added, not quite doubling the size of the community, but there are many more on the books, with construction yet to begin.

That includes The Cannery, right across the street from the couple who moved to an area that attracted them because it felt like living in the country. They could walk their dog along rural roads and enjoy the nature and wildlife that surrounded them.

But their tranquil lifestyle is about to come to an end. Once the development of the property across the street from them begins, "it's going to be like living in the city," says Vreeken.

"We used to feel like we had a lot of privacy. Now with all the traffic that will be passing by, we're going to have to plant a row of evergreens to create a little bit of privacy."

One of the roads into the new subdivision will be almost across from their driveway, and will change the nature of the rural road they front on, they say.

They are not looking forward to the years of noisy construction, either, as trucks enter and exit right in front of their home.

"We're not in support of the development," said Weaver. "The town has kept us in the loop about what is going on, but there is nothing we can do about it. It's out of our control."

The area slated for development of 235 homes surrounds the former cannery, on both sides of Four Mile Creek Road, bordering Line 9 and the ravine, to Ravine Winery on the west and Concession 3 to the east. It will change the view for many St. Davids residents, who are accustomed to a more country village kind of streetscape.

Much of the property used to consist of orchards, which are gone now. There are some rows of trees, and the draft plan of subdivision calls for a tree-saving plan to be developed by a qualified arborist or forestry consultant.

The original development proposal for former CanGro fruit processing property came from local developer and businessman Rainer Hummel, who has kept the industrial portion that was once the site of the factory, and is now home to Hummel's award-winning adaptation of the cannery for use as his office.

The portion slated for residential development has been sold to Benny Marotta, known locally for the vineyards planted between East and West Line and John Street with the intention of building a winery, and a large house he is building overlooking the Niagara River.

Council approved a revised plan for the subdivision at their last meeting, submitted since the change in ownership.

The plan as it stands is to build a mix of 235 homes, including detached, semis and townhouses. The housing density is only increased by 10, with more detached homes but on smaller lots.

See Page 3

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Did you know Canadian home sales in January were 5.2% lower than the same month last year, but up 1.3% from December? The Canadian Real Estate Association's latest report said house prices continue to grow but at a slower pace, rising 3.1% during the month. While sales are lower than last year, they have not changed much from month to month since September. "Although the air continues to seep out of Canada's formerly red-hot housing market, today's data provided some hints that the sharp decline in activity over the second half of 2012 may be beginning to stabilize just in time for the all-important spring market," wrote TD Bank deputy chief economist Derek Burleton.

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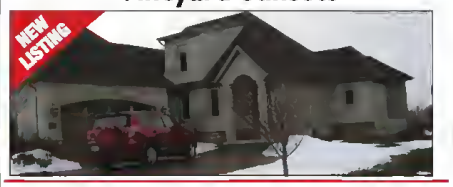

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55 Garrison Village Drive • $569,000

This 3-bedroom bungalow with finished basement offers 2300+ sq ft of serene living space. Open concept main floor includes numerous walk-outs and master with en suite.

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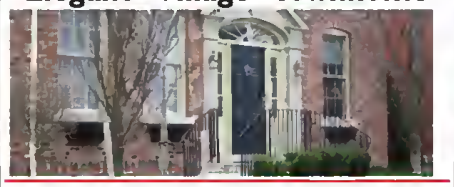

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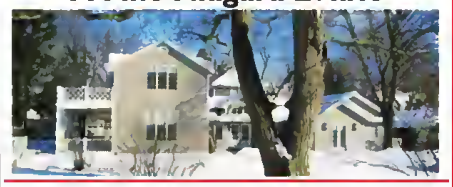

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Town 'scored a win' with changes to plan

From Page 2

The original plan included low-rise condominium apartment buildings, but Hummel dropped those when told by council they didn't belong in the heritage community.

Also new is a park, which will be behind the houses bordering on Line 9, with a walkway to connect with the St. Davids Lions property.

John Henricks, the Town's planning manager, said when discussions began with the new property owner, the addition of the park was mentioned.

It wasn't required, the Town couldn't insist, but he felt there was no harm in asking, that it would make for a better neighbourhood for the families the houses will attract, and the developer agreed.

There will be a path connecting the park with the Town's swimming pool property and the St. Davids Lions property.

The park is perfectly situated for those living in the new subdivision, but may be used as a gathering place by the broader St. Davids community as well, he said.

And although no decision has been made about what the park will offer other than greenspace, Henricks hopes to see some playground equipment for the children in the neighbourhood.

The other major change to the plan is the relocation of the stormwater pond, which is larger, said Henricks, and that was not negotiable—the size and location indicated in the original plan would not have worked.

"I'm not an engineer, but I felt intuitively it wouldn't work, and I had that confirmed by an engineer."

Henricks says in his opinion the plan that was approved with little discussion last week is a better plan than the original—chiefly because of the addition of the park and the improvements to the stormwater pond.

Although there are no drawings yet that show any detail of what the subdivision will look like, those details will be requested, he said.

The urban design committee will look at those details which will have to meet the guidelines as set out for St. Davids, to ensure the new homes fit in the village.

"In my view this is a superior plan than wheat we were offered previously," said Henricks.

"Frankly, with the addition of the park, I think we scored a win."

Jeff Vreeken and Tricia Weaver walk their dog Bailey on Line 9, open fields in the background. Their front porch, across Line 9 from the site of The Cannery subdisiion, has a view of the escarpment and the Brock Monument, but that will soon disappear along with the rural streetscape they now enjoy.

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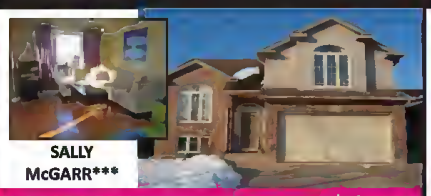
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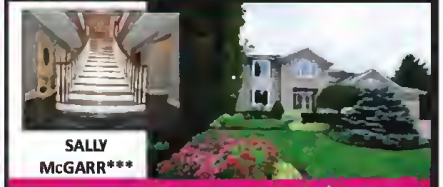
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Gates, fee hike coming to NOTL hospital parking lot

No allowance is being made for a quick drop-off or pick-up location, says Old Town resident

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The gates are going in at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital, and parking rates will increase.

This is one of many changes to be instituted by the Niagara Health System as part of its plans to slash its $13 million deficit.

Rather than cut beds, nurses or programs, the local health system is looking at alternatives. Installing parking gates at the NOTL site and raising parking fees are part of the solution.

Gated parking and hiking rates will be instituted across the system.

Increasing parking rates is expected to bring in an extra $500,000 a year, with visitors to pay $2 per ½ hour, and $4 for one hour, up to a maximum of $8 for 12 hours.

Local resident Harry Flood is not happy about the increase in rates, but he is even more concerned about gating the parking lot at the NOTL Hospital.

At other hospital sites, he can drive up to a main door to drop off his wife, who has difficulty walking. At the NOTL Hospital, there is no such accommodation, he says.

The Floods' doctor is downstairs in the building, and Harry often drops off his wife at the side door and then parks somewhere else, he says.

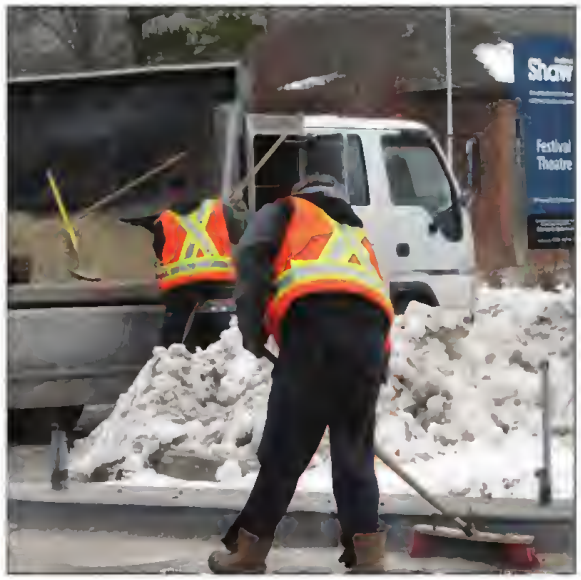
Often, one of them is making a quick visit to their doctor to have a prescription renewed.

The solution would be to put in a circular driveway to the main entrance, but in addition to the expense, that entrance, with its front stairs, isn't as accessible as the side door, which has an elevator just inside.

"If there was an outcry, maybe they would rethink this," says Flood.

"There needs to be a drop-off and pick-up location. I'm not sure why people aren't talking about it."

Although moving forward with gates seems questionable when the future of the hospital is up in the air, if the doctors' offices are going to remain in the building, an accessible drop-off has to be considered, he says.



Work began on the Wellington Street gates for the NOTL Hospital parking lot last week. The gates will be installed in the next week or two, with increased parking rates.

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New citizens welcomed

From Page 1

He issued the invitation because a ceremony held at Crossroads would provide a superb opportunity for ESL students and others "to see what some of our families have to look forward to in the future, and time to see just how special it is to live in this beautiful country," he said.

The ceremony took place Friday—also National Flag Day and the 48th anniversary of the national flag—with every student enthusiastically waving their flag as each new citizen was introduced.

The message repeated to the students by the guests who were invited to speak was that all of us are from families who were immigrants to Canada, whether it was our parents, grandparents or great-grandparents, who left behind, in some cases, "tyranny, oppression and hardships unimaginable to us," said Zaporzan.

"Many of our ancestors left behind friends, family and loved ones for a chance at a better life in a country far away from their own. They came to Canada, as many of these new Canadians did, and continue to do, for a chance at a better life, to a country abound with opportunity for people willing to work hard and persevere. Canada is a place where dreams come true and anything is possible."

Crossroads principal Marian Reimer Friesen, whose parents arrived in Canada, homeless, from Russia, welcomed the new Canadians and thanked them "for sharing your Canadian story. It's been a great learning experience."

She told them they are following in the footsteps of generations of Canadians.

"Be proud of your country. You are joining a Canadian story."

Sgt. Jeremy Gamble of the Lincoln Welland Regiment talked to the new Canadians about their right to vote, to run as a candidate, to work in any province or territory, and their new responsibilities as Canadians. He encouraged them to become active and involved in their communities.

"The future of Canada, our future, now depends on you."

"You've won the lottery of life," MP and federal justice minister told the new Canadians.

"Canada is the kind of country the world should become."

PENNY COLES
Niagara Advance

Maricar Sibug from the Phillipines, with the daughter she is expecting in April, was welcomed as a new Canadian by citizenship judge Ted Salci, with clerk Mary McKinnon and MP Rob Nicholson looking on. The citizenship ceremony was held at Crossroads Public School Friday.

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our editorial

Citizenship ceremony at Crossroads Public School is what education in this country should be all about

Everyone in this country of ours should attend a citizenship ceremony, at least once in their lives.

They are emotional. They are educational. They are reminders of how great this country is that we call home, and of why others, not so fortunate at birth, want to become Canadian citizens.

Apparently, if you are already a Canadian citizen, you can renew your citizen oath at certain citizenship ceremonies, particularly those taking place July 1.

The pride in the faces of the new Canadians at the ceremony held at Crossroads last week was evident. The pride shown by the students, to be part of such an event, was uplifting.

If you have been at a citizenship ceremony held at a more traditional location, imagine the same pomp and ceremony, the traditional red-coated mountie standing guard, while 400 students, some as young as four or five, cheer, clap, wave their Canadian flags, grinning ear to ear as each new citizen is introduced.

Citizenship ceremonies are the last step in acquiring Canadian citizenship. They are legally and symbolically important, says the government's website.

They are inspiring.

"The ceremony signifies formal entry into the Canadian family and the acceptance of rights and responsibilities of citizenship. At a citizenship ceremony new Canadians take the oath of citizenship and are presented with a certificate of Canadian citizenship."

New Canadians must study about their new country and pass a test, answering questions that could be difficult for many of us who have been citizens since birth.

It might be interesting to make it a family game - ask some of the questions that are posed to new Canadians and see how well you can answer them.

Congratulations to all who had a hand in organizing the ceremony held at Crossroads. It is something every student, in fact every one of us, should witness.

It's also an important reminder that each and every one of us comes from an immigrant family at some point in our heritage, with relatives who faced similar challenges to those who were sworn in last week.

It's good for our kids to know, for all of us to know, that we're no different than those who come to Canada today with their families to give them a better life. Some of us were just were fortunate to have families who came a little sooner in the history of our country.

letters to the editor

Retired St. Davids postmaster touched by good wishes

Over the past 40 years it has been my absolute pleasure to be of service to our beautiful community of St. Davids.

I would like to extend a huge heart felt thank-you to all of my customers, friends and family who turned out for my retirement farewell at the St. David's Post office.

What a sense of accomplishment you made me feel and how wonderful a day it was to share with so many of you and I was truly overwhelmed by your generosity and sincere wishes.

You touched my heart and a big thank-you again to each and everyone of you.

Warmest regards,

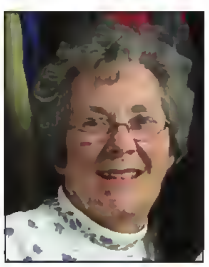
Tami Lepp

Defender of the Town

Alan Dickson, owner of PigOut Roasters, accepts his Defender of the Town plaque from War of 1812 Bicentennial Committee member Tony Chisholm. PigOut already has a long history of serving food to re-enactor groups when they come to town for bicentennial events and other re-enactments—the local business did an amazing job in October feeding more than 1,100 lunches to the hungry re-enactors and volunteers at the battle of Queenston Heights. PigOut's contribution will go toward the Occupation of the Town event, which runs from May until December, and toward the Niagara On Fire event in December.

Thanks for generous contributions to Newark

Time to register for help at Easter



Brenda Shah
Newark Neighbours

We would like to take this time to give a belated thank you to Mrs. Garrett (sorry we didn't get your first name) for the wonderful Christmas basket she made and donated to a family at Christmas.

Thanks to Peller Estates for their food donation. Thanks also to St. Davids School staff and students for the two containers of food they donated, to Vintage Inns for their donation of clothing, to Mu Pi Chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority for their donation of hats, mitts and scarves.

Thanks to the parishioners of Grace United Church, Coyote Run Estates Winery and the Canada Helps Organization for their generous check donations.

With Easter just around the corner we would like to let everyone know that registration for Easter dinners will start on Friday, March 1.

Pick-up for the dinners will be on Thursday, March 21 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

If you are registering for the first time, please come in person and bring your proof of address and an income statement.

Starting in March the offshore workers will begin to arrive. They will be in need of warm clothing (coats, hats, work gloves, hoodies and work boots) and for setting up house, microwaves, pots and pans and any kitchenware. If you have any of these items to donate, we would sure appreciate it.

Our hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

We are located at 310 John St. E. on the property of Riverbend Inn and can be reached at 905-468-3519.

opinion

Come to hort meeting and learn about Japanese gardening

Peace, love and landscaping—now that sounds like a good combination

Jean Cochrane
Happy Gardening

Out walking on Saturday I heard some birdcalls – ah a good sign (I thought), —then we got snow and even whiteouts and I thought, 'dumb bird', but it is just me and my impatience for spring.

I have potted up some of my Cannas so that made me feel better, but my seeds on paper towels are not doing anything yet, but it should not be too long.

We have a Horticultural Society meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 26, in the Community Center on Anderson Lane, and Wolfe Bonham, owner of Peace, Love and Landscaping—what more could you ask for?—will tell us about Japanese Garden Design.

You will look at the small neglected areas or shady spots differently and find solutions with a simplistic, refined, Zen style of gardening found throughout Japan, and apply those techniques to any garden style.

One thing that always had me puzzled in some of the large Japanese gardens we visited, was when you studied the raked gravel design, where did the gardener stop and how did he exit the garden?

So do come and join us, new members are always welcome, the coffee is on for 6.30p.m. (and there are always 'goodies ' too).

The meeting starts at 7p.m.

Happy gardening.

Cannas can be counted on to add a touch of colour when in bloom.

Congrats to politician for his patience but school board should look at optics

Is school board still piqued over high school issue? If so, it's time to get over it

Penny Coles
Editor's Notebook

OK, in the interest of disclosure, I will begin by saying that like many in this town who witnessed the accommodation review process that resulted in the closure of our high school, I have had lingering feelings of bitterness toward our school board.

And feelings of frustration with a system that is stacked strongly against the smaller municipalities which don't have the electoral numbers to influence school board trustees.

But it's time to get over it and move forward, for all involved.

Including me.

I would hazard a guess that when the Town decided to strike an education committee in May 2011, this while the disappointment and distrust over the process that led to the closing of Niagara District Secondary School was at a all-time high, it was understood that the board might not be thrilled with the idea.

There were harsh feelings between the Town and the District School Board of Niagara at the time, because although politicians understand the benefit of tact, the time for tact ran out at about the same rate as the time remaining on the clock for our high school.

But that is in the past, and this is now, so why are we still talking about education in Niagara-on-the-Lake?

The Town has taken the unusual stance that it would form a committee to continue to keep track of enrolment and capacity in local schools.

While that's not normally the mandate of municipal government, Town politicians—those in favour of the committee, since not all were—justified it by saying it would be operating from a planning perspective.

And that makes sense, especially now, with the numbers of new subdivisions on the books.

It actually makes complete sense that, as chair of the committee Councillor Gary Zalepa Jr. said, in a perfect world agencies such as school boards would routinely converse with municipalities about such factors as population growth and how it might affect planning for the future.

But it isn't routine, and in regards to NOTL, it's likely not a welcome prospect on the part of our school board.

It's just a guess—we don't have numbers to confirm—but it's likely Crossroads is nearing capacity. There was concern when it was built that it would soon be full, but we were told there was an extra classroom.

It seems safe to assume that the population of school-aged kids in the Old Town is dwindling, or at least static, but we don't know that.

We do know St. Davids and Glendale, which both feed St. Davids Public School, will grow over the next decade in leaps and bounds.

But the school board seems completely uninterested in that information.

How frustrating for our committee members to be waiting, in February, for numbers that should have been available soon after school started in September.

And congratulations to Councillor Gary Zalepa for not sounding angry or exasperated by the school board's response, that it is waiting for ongoing accommodation reviews to be finished.

What has that got to do with Niagara-on-the-Lake schools, none of which is currently being reviewed?

I guess that as a politician, Zalepa understands about process, about patience, about tact.

And he most certainly understands that ruffling feathers—if there are any left unruffled when it comes to NOTL—at the board isn't going to make progress any easier for this municipality.

But oh, the absurdity of it, that what seems like such a simple request has proved to be so complicated.

Is this about nurturing hard feelings? Is it about bearing grudges? Let's hope not.

And let's hope the information from the board is forthcoming, sooner rather than later, so our committee members can stop cooling their heels and get on with doing the job they were asked to do.

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
1593 Four Mile Creek Rd., Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0 905-468-3266 www.notl.org

TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE MUNICIPAL TAX REMINDER NOTICE
INTERIM FIRST INSTALLMENT
DUE THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013
Tax Rates
As per By-Law No. 4605-13

Payment may be made by MAIL or at the MUNICIPAL OFFICE, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road. A 24-hour mail slot is located at the front (Accessible Drop Box) and side entrances of the Town Hall for your convenience. Post-dated cheques are accepted. **Payment may be made electronically from your bank account using the 19-digit roll number.**

If payment is made at a bank or other pay station, your account will be credited only **AFTER** the Town has received settlement from the bank. Please allow **TEN (10)** working days for payment processing.

A penalty of 1.25% will be added on the first day of default and on the first day of each month thereafter. To avoid penalty and interest charges, **PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE BY THE DUE DATE.**

Penalties may not be waived.

Failure to receive a bill does not excuse a taxpayer from the responsibility of payment of taxes and penalty. If you have NOT received your tax notice and a mortgage company does not pay on your behalf, please contact the Finance Department at 905-468-3266 or **fax 905-468-2959**.

NOW...

You have another option for payment of your Municipal Taxes. For further information on monthly or due date installments by pre-authorized withdrawals contact: Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Finance Department at (905) 468-3266 ext. 230.

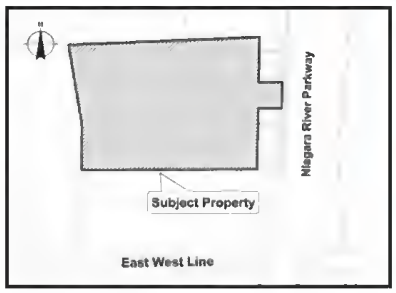
Please visit the Town's website at www.notl.org for up-to-date information on Town Business.

COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
1593 Four Mile Creek Rd., Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0 • www.notl.org • 905+468-3266

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

16052 Niagara River Parkway – Official Plan & Zoning Change

PROPOSED CHANGE
To amend the Official Plan and Zoning By-law to add agri-tourism uses that will permit the hosting of weddings and special events on the property.



HAVE YOUR SAY
Input on any proposed zoning change is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Town.

PUBLIC MEETING
Date: **March 18, 2013**
Time: **7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter**
Place: **Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake**
Administration Offices, Council Chambers
1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil, Ontario

WRITTEN SUBMISSION
To provide input in writing, or to request personal notice if the proposed change is adopted, please send a letter c/o Town Clerk Holly Dowd, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, Ontario, L0S 1T0.

MORE INFORMATION
For more information please contact Kay Grant, Development Planner II at 905-468-3266, extension 297 or kgrant@notl.org. A copy of this notice can be found on the Town's website at www.notl.org.

LEGAL NOTICE
Section 17 & 34 of the Planning Act

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before this matter is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Council to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submission to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before this matter is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there is reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of Town Council in respect to this matter you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake this 21st day of February 2013.

Education committee still waiting for numbers

School board has yet to provide enrolment figures for NOTL schools this year

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

With the number of new subdivisions underway and in planning stages in Virgil, Glendale and St. Davids, the Town's education committee is hoping to see current enrolment numbers at local public schools to gauge whether there is sufficient space to accommodate a growing number of students.

Councillor Gary Zalepa Jr., chair of the committee, says the Town has asked the District School Board of Niagara for those numbers, but has been told they will be forthcoming once current accommodation reviews are completed.

It's interesting to note, and a little puzzling, says Zalepa, that the board has sent enrolment numbers for all other schools under its jurisdiction—just not the ones for NOTL facilities, none of which are currently the subject of an accommodation review.

The education review committee was formed in May 2011, after some discussion at council about whether it was appropriate for a municipality to be tackling the issue of education. But since the terms of reference for the committee were to look at demographics and facility capacity from a planning perspective, the committee was struck. The school board was invited to have representation on the committee along with two Town councillors, three residents and town planning staff, but declined.

Zalepa says the Town committee has no plans to meet until it has the enrolment figures.

"Until then, we're at a bit of an impasse," he says.

The Town has sent another letter to the board asking for a timeline of when the accommodation reviews might be completed and the student numbers available for NOTL schools.

"We want to take a look at the numbers from a long-term perspective," says Zalepa.

"We want to know what is happening with the population of school-age children in town. We know that it is moving away from the Old Town to St. Davids, Virgil and Glendale, but we don't know in what numbers. Once we have that information we can look at projected subdivision plans over the next 10 to 15 years and address whether we have the facilities we need."

He says planned residential construction in Virgil, St. Davids and Glendale could mean a shortage of capacity in community schools in the future, "but although we think that might be the case, although we think old patterns (of declining enrolment) have changed, we want to have the facts confirmed."

The committee needs the baseline of enrolment today to project the future, he says, and while he is looking on the positive side, that the figures will be forthcoming soon, committee members don't have what they need now to go forward.

He hopes to receive the enrolment numbers in time to report back to council in April.

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Correction

Last week's Niagara Advance indicated that Town councillors had supported a change to the regional bylaw that would crack down on smoking in public places outdoors. In fact councillors referred the issue back to Town staff for a report before making a decision whether or not to support it. The Advance apologizes for the error and any inconvenience it may have caused.

GET INVOLVED NOW.
www.1812niagaraonthelake.ca

No more 905 – after March, new numbers in Niagara will have 365 area code

Existing 905 and 289 numbers won't change

People will soon be dialing 365 when making local phone calls.

The 365 area code is being introduced across southern Ontario in locations where 905 and 289 area codes are now in use, including Niagara.

The new area code will be implemented on March 25, meaning new telephone numbers assigned in the region will be given the 365 area code.

Existing telephone numbers will not change.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) approved the area code change in April 2010, after the Canadian Numbering Administrator warned that the region is expected to run out of telephone numbers by March 2014.

A new 437 area code is being introduced in the Toronto area where area codes 416 — at one time the Niagara area code — and 647 are currently in use. That change is scheduled to take effect March 25 as well.

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

1593 Four Mile Creek Rd., Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0 905-468-3266 www.notl.org

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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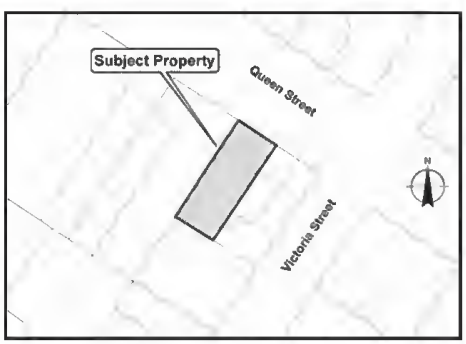
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

114 Queen Street - Draft Plan of Condominium

PURPOSE

Draft Plan of Condominium for a standard condominium to proceed with the development of a two (2) storey commercial building with three (3) units. The site has site plan approval for the two-storey, 743 sq. m. building which is currently under construction.



HAVE YOUR SAY

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PUBLIC MEETING

Date: **March 18, 2013**
Time: **7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter**
Place: **Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake**
Administration Offices
Council Chambers
1593 Four Mile Creek Road
Virgil, Ontario

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, or to request personal notice if the proposed change is adopted, please send a letter c/o Town Clerk Holly Dowd, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, Ontario, L0S 1T0.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information please contact Aaron Butler, Development Planner at 905 468-3266, extension 294. A copy of this notice can be found on the Town's website at **www.notl.org.**

LEGAL NOTICE
Section 51 of the Planning Act

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before this matter is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Council to the Ontario Municipal Board.

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If you wish to be notified of the decision of Town Council in respect to this matter you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake this 21st day of February 2013.

COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

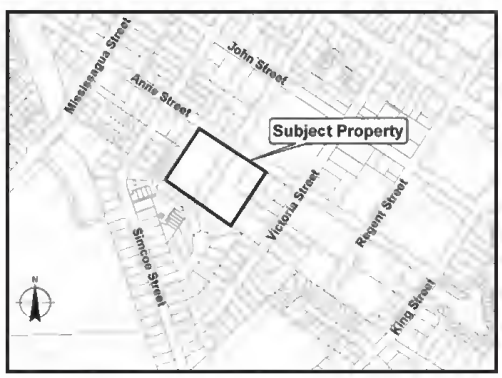
1593 Four Mile Creek Rd., Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0 • www.notl.org • 905-468-3266

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Anne Street - Official Plan & Zoning Change

PROPOSED CHANGE

To permit a four storey, 142 unit apartment building comprising of 66 one bedroom units and 76 two bedroom units with associated indoor and outdoor amenity areas. The apartment building will be supported by 156 surface and below grade parking spaces.



HAVE YOUR SAY

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PUBLIC MEETING

Date: March 18, 2013
Time: 7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter
Place: Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Administration Offices, Council Chambers
1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil, Ontario

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

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MORE INFORMATION

For more information please contact Kay Grant, Development Planner at 905-468-3266, extension 297. A copy of this notice can be found on the Town's website at **www.notl.org.**

LEGAL NOTICE
Section 17 & 34 of the Planning Act

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Council to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submission to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake before the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there is reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of Town Council in respect to the proposed by-law and draft plan of vacant land condominium you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake this 21st day of February, 2013.

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Dancing in NOTL, around the world to end violence toward women

One Billion Rising asks women and those who love them to show collective strength

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Eighty people in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

More than one million around the world.

Helping the one billion women and girls who will be raped or abused in their lifetime.

For the first time this Valentine's Day, there was an event in Niagara-on-the-Lake that provided an opportunity for women and men to share their disgust of violence toward women and girls, to refuse to allow it to continue, to demand an end to violence against women and girls.

One in three women and girls on the planet are abused in their lifetime. Eve Ensler, founder of the Vagina Monologues, created V-Day, a movement to raise funds through benefit performances of her play, and more than $9 million dollars has been raised for shelters, call centres, supports and resources for abused women and girls.

On the 15th anniversary of V-Day, One Billion Rising was organized to encourage women and those who love them to dance, rise up, and demand an end to this violence, to show the world a collective strength and solidarity of those who will not tolerate the violent abuse of women.

Nia, a local dance and fitness group, opened its community centre class Thursday to those who want to join them, to dance with them, to raise money and awareness about violence toward women and girls, to be part of One Billion Rising.

There couldn't have been a more appropriate venue for an expression of support for women.

See Page 13

PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

Women and men dance for One Billion Rising at the community centre last Thursday. Similar events were held around the world on the same day to raise funds and awareness and help put an end to violence against women and girls.

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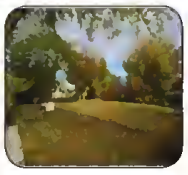

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GREAT PRICE!
Lakefront - views of Toronto Skyline. Spectacular sunsets, 3 beds, 3 baths. 2 River rock fireplaces. 2 Kitchens. In-Law suite, double car garage + carport. Water access. PRICED TO SELL.

Nia dance movements spiritual, sensual – not about jumping around to burn off calories

From Page 12

Nia is sensory-based, and draws from martial arts, dance arts and healing arts, and is made up of slow, graceful movements that connect the body, mind and emotions, with a spiritual element to both movement and music.

And the turn-out on Valentine's Day, for a small community, was spectacular. It was especially gratifying to see the number of men who took part. It didn't matter whether they were graceful. It didn't matter that some of them looked embarrassed and uncomfortable.

They were there, showing their support, participating in something their mere presence indicated was important to them.

"We were awed" by the turn-out, says Steffanie Bjorgan, a member of Nia and one of the organizers of the event.

"We were so happy for a first time event, especially given that we were asking people to dance."

Lord Mayor Dave Eke was there, as were councillors Jamie King and Martin Mazza. They didn't dance, but they were there to show support.

And, as Deborah Corbett, a Nia instructor said, "today we're rising, dancing, striking for women all over the world, men, women and children dancing together, everywhere on this planet today. One in three women will be victims of violence and abuse. We're dancing to put an end to that."

A donation of $1,140 collected at the event will go to Gillian's Place in St. Catharines, which helps women and their children escape from the nightmare of violence and abuse, giving them a safe haven to run to where they can be sure of receiving a warm welcome and the assistance they need to begin a new, violence-free life.

Moe Bjorgan, Sean Simpson and Joe Pillitteri dance to end violence against women in One Billion Rising, an event held at the community centre in NOTL and around the world Thursday.

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Local author wants to bring together those who share her love of writing

Teacher, author hopes to create writers' circle in town

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Hermine Steinberg, teacher and author, is on a mission.

She hopes to bring local writers together – of all genres and levels of experience, she says – to create the Niagara-on-the-Lake Writers' Circle.

"We all know that this place has a unique spirit that speaks to our soul and stirs our creative energies. The goal is to form a community to support our creative efforts, share our work, provide constructive feedback, and, of course, have fun."

In the three years since Steinberg moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake—part-time, still with a residence in Toronto—she says she has had the pleasure of meeting many talented people in the area.

"We are lucky that the area has attracted so many creative people and it is reflected in the strong interest and demand for cultural activities in the region," she says.

"Bringing together local residents who have a passion for writing and who want to connect to a supportive community will encourage and inspire us to do to our best work. I am hoping that in the future we will also do public readings and share our work with the community in a variety of formats."

The shape of future meetings will be directed by those who attend.

"People will bring certain needs and expectations with them to address," she says.

"Hopefully we'll be able to develop it into something meaningful to us all."

Depending on how many people show up and where they would prefer to meet in future, they could continue meeting in people's homes or find a place, perhaps the community center, where they can meet twice a month, on Sunday afternoons, she says.

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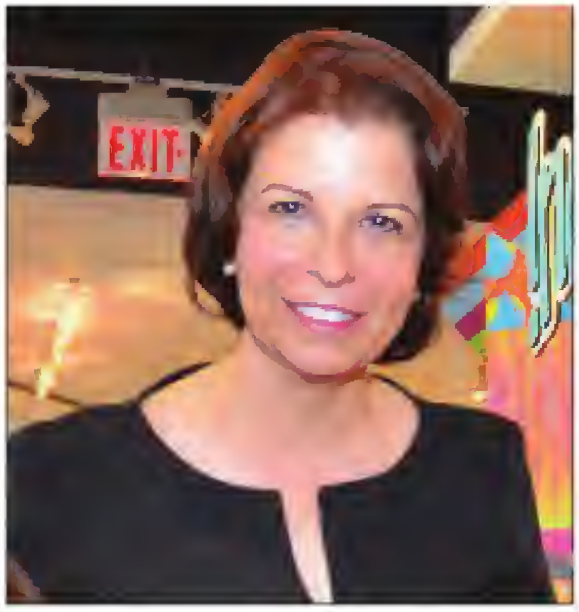

Author Hermine Steinberg is hosting the first of what she hopes will be regular meetings of a writers' circle in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

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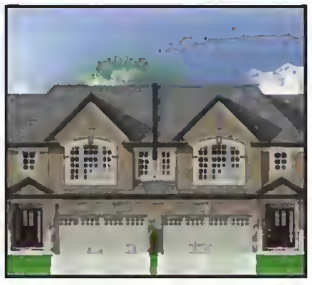

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Writers' circle could help prevent isolation and provide opportunities for sharing work

From Page 14

Steinberg has been writing for many years - short stories, fiction and non-fiction.

She has also written articles for online publications and a blog about issues related to children and young adults. She wrote and published a novel for eight to 12-year-olds which was published two years ago. Called Cowalkers, the Awakening, it is the first of a trilogy. She began it as a short story about 10 years ago for her four children, and over time it evolved to a novel, she says. She is now about half way through the second book in the series.

Steinberg says she has loved reading since early on in her life, and became a science fiction and historical fiction junky by high school.

"The more I read, the more I loved to write – everything from poetry, short stories, lists of ideas and plans, and even questions I wanted to think about more deeply. Writing helped me think things through and express myself," she says.

"Writing is a difficult process, and it can be isolating. It helps to connect with others and share your work."

The writers' circle, she says, is for anyone who loves to write.

The first meeting will take place at her home, Sunday, March 10, from 2 to 4 p.m. For more details, email Steinberg at hsteinberg@sympatico.ca or call her at 289-868-9601.

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Students have become family for seasoned Pumphouse instructor

As the art centre celebrates its 20th anniversary, Susan Wintrop reflects on her long association with Pumphouse

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Susan Wintrop isn't one of the original instructors at the Niagara Pumphouse, but she is the "last teacher standing" from its early days, she says.

She has taught at the Pumphouse, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, since 1995 and brings to her classes expertise developed over a career as a graphic designer, calligrapher, painter and potter.

Even before she arrived in NOTL in 1994, she had heard about the Pumphouse and the restoration it was undergoing, and thought it might be a place where she would be able to teach.

When she arrived in town, she opened East West Line Pottery, where she had a kiln installed and went to work. Her interest in medieval and Japanese studies was reflected in her raku pottery which has been shown in three solo exhibitions at the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto.

She also ran a bed and breakfast.

She no longer creates pottery—has just a few pieces of her work left for sale—and it's been a long time since she operated a B&B, but although she has moved on in her life and in her art, her connection with the Pumphouse has remained a constant.

"It's been a huge part of my life through the ups and downs of the administration," she says.

Her best friends were all met through classes over the years, and have become her family here, she says.

The first class she taught was one for beginning painters: Art for those who think they can't, she called it.

Although she didn't teach pottery in the early years of the Pumphouse, she recalls, she has taught many classes since.

She has also held classes in water colours, calligraphy, botanical illustration, art as biography—how the life of artists and their personal struggles affected their work—and oil paining "for the cheap and terrified, the absolute beginners," she says.

She has worked with hundreds of students, including a handful who have been with her since the beginning, and who continue to attend a Tuesday morning open studio. They bring whatever project they happen to be working on, and she observes and tries to help them "take it from really good to excellent."

The Niagara Pumphouse Visual Art Centre has evolved from its early days when Wintrop began teaching, but it continues to do what it does best—offer exhibits of talented artists and programs in a wide variety of art-related subjects, with a dedicated group of instructors.

The membership over the course of two decades has been up and down, but the instructors and the program directors have worked to offer new and relevant classes to challenge a core group of people who continue to take classes and to help move them to the next level in their work, says Wintrop.

As an instructor, she has created programs to accommodate the evolution of her students, she says.

Please see Page 17

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Programs challenge students

From Page 16

"It has to be fresh, and it has to continue to be a challenge."

She has had to work at accomplishing those goals.

"The needs of my students have necessitated my own stepping up. It can take months of preparing so I'll be ready to roll for a new season."

With its 20th anniversary, the Pumphouse too has had to step up, and has hired "some really talented, innovative teachers, artists who have shown all over the world," says Wintrop.

"After 20 years, the Pumphouse has to have new life, new people, and new ideas. I'd say the last year and a half has been great with new programs and new teachers."

Every community needs a cultural centre where creative experiences can be found, she says.

"That's what the Pumphouse is. People come for many reasons—for a cultural experience, for a social experience, and in some cases for the fulfillment of a life-long dream to become an artist. In can provide a brief time in their week that is a distraction, a time for themselves that's both meaningful, personal, and fun."

As for Wintrop and her personal challenges to grow as an artist, after 25 years of making and selling her pottery, she says, "it just felt like all the pots had been shaken out, the repository empty."

She doesn't miss it, she says, but the unexpected result was the shock of people who were close to her, who had known her as a potter, and the difficulty they had of not seeing her as that any more.

She now concentrates on painting with oils, and has reached a comfortable place in her life where she can paint to please herself.

"I'm interested in science, philosophy and human nature so my work is to create allegorical images which illustrate different theories and ideas which engage my curiosity."

Some paintings have sold, to her surprise, but they are not intended for the rest of the world, she says.

One particular painting that sold, she has recreated—and will keep it, she says.

"At this stage of my creative endeavors I am quietly pursuing these challenges without the pressure of obligation to a gallery. It's a great pleasure and quite freeing."

Although her newest work is for herself, she continues to cherish the relationships she has developed with her students.

"What would I do without them? They're precious to me. As important as the Pumphouse is to them, in their lives, they have become really important to me in my life."

There are some celebrations in the works to mark the 20-year milestone, including an open house March 17.

For more information about the Pumphouse on Ricardo Street, its programs and volunteer opportunities, call 905-468-5455 or visit niagarapumphouse.ca.

PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

Instructor Susan Wintrop shows one of her more recent paintings, Coherence, and Pink House, painted as a sample for one of her classes. There is an instructors exhibit on in the gallery at the Pumphouse, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, until the end of April.

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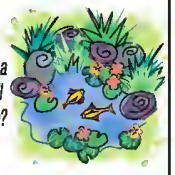

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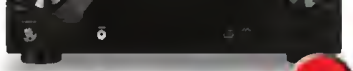

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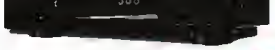

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25th anniversary of Cuvée features winemakers' favourites

New format for gala evening includes Après Cuvée with music, dancing and beer bar

Billed for more than 20 years as the Oscars of the wine industry, this year's Cuvée gala tasting is no longer a competition between winemakers.

When winemakers from 40 Ontario wineries gather at the Fallsview Casino Resort March 1, they will have each selected their own personal favourite vintage to be poured that evening.

Gone is the panel of winemakers judging their peers.

The Cuvée Wine Weekend, one of the wine industry's hottest events, is changing it up in honour of its 25th anniversary.

And while guests sip their way through some of the province's best wines, they will also enjoy culinary masterpieces created at live cooking stations by 10 of Niagara's top chefs.

Following what is being billed as the Grand Tasting, the celebrations continue with Après Cuvée, featuring music, dancing, an Icewine and Bubbles Bar and Craft Beer Bar.

Wine industry insiders are excited about the new direction for this year's Cuvée Gala. According to noted wine writer, Tony Aspler, "Winemakers are proud of their work and want to showcase their best effort. The Grand Tasting format for the Cuvée Gala will give the public an insight into what they consider the 'favoured child' of their family."

"This new format is a wonderful way to celebrate the silver anniversary of Cuvée. The reintroduction of Après Cuvée should delight everyone as well!" said Sue-Ann Staff of Sue-Ann Staff Estate Winery.

A cross section of talent representing some of Niagara's finest dining establishments will be on hand, including:

- Chef Ray Taylor, Fallsview Casino Resort
- Chef Chris Smythe, Escabèche at Prince of Wales Hotel
- Chef Frank Romano and Don Dyson, Inn on the Twenty
- Chef Stephen Treadwell, Treadwell Farm-to-Table Cuisine
- Chef Tim Mackiddie, Jackson-Triggs Niagara Estate
- Chef Jason Dobbie, Zees Grill at Shaw Club Hotel
- Chef Giovanni Del Priore and Chef Leonardo Priore, Criveller Cakes
- Chef Manager Bruce Worden with Chef Dan LeBlanc, Chef Sam Seaver and Chef Professor Philippe Corbiere, Benchmark Restaurant at The Canadian Food and Wine Institute.

The chefs will present their creations that will pair well with the variety of VQA wines that have been specially selected for the gala.

From savoury bison and smoked venison to vegetarian options including vegan chicken and waffles and golden beet ravioli, the evening's culinary options offer something sure to please foodies of every persuasion.

Guests will also enjoy a selection of artisan cheeses from The Dairy Farmers of Canada and an assortment of gelato from Italian Ice Cream.

Cuvée Wine Weekend tickets include a Cuvée en Route tasting passport. From Friday through Sunday, guests can top off their experience by touring and tasting their way along Niagara's wine route.

Participating wineries and restaurants will offer exclusive tastings, special meals and menu items as part of the Cuvée en Route passport program.

Ticket and event information, as well as announcements about participating wineries and chefs, and details about the Cuvée en Route passport can all be found on the Cuvée website, www.cuvee.ca.

Proceeds from the Cuvée Weekend go to the Niagara Community Foundation.

Established in 2000, the Foundation has raised almost $20 million and granted over $4.8 million from its endowment fund, created to support local charities working in the arts, heritage, environment, social services, health, education and community development.

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Best area music students to perform at St. Mark's Church

Festival Concert of Stars Gala features best students from recent music competition

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The best of the best music students participating in an annual music festival will perform at St. Mark's Church Friday.

The Niagara ORMTA (Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association) Festival competition of students in musical theatre, voice and piano was held last week with about 400 students taking part.

Six students from each of the three disciplines have been chosen by the adjudicators to perform at the Festival Concert of Stars Gala, says Lisa Brillon, Queenston music teacher and festival co-ordinator.

The festival includes music students aged six to 18, with 22 scholarships up for grabs.

St. Mark's was chosen because of its wonderful piano, its fantastic acoustics and the number of people it can hold, says Brillon.

And since the festival was held in churches in Niagara Falls and St. Catharines, Brillon decided to bring the gala concert to Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The concert is Friday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

There is no charge for admission.

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Store News & Events

FREE SEMINAR: BEAT THE BLUES

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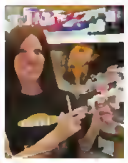

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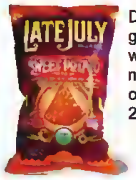

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DOCTOR SCOTT'S NATURAL HEALTH REPORT

THE RESEARCH FINDING: A research review has found that ***Saccharomyces boulardii significantly shortened the duration of watery stools*** and reduced the number of days people experienced ***acute diarrhea*** and needed to be hospitalized. Furthermore, *S. boulardii* was beneficial no matter what type of infection caused diarrhea. **DR. SCOTT SAYS:** Probiotics are essential to a healthy gut and immune system. *S. boulardii* kills unwanted bacteria and yeast like *E. coli, C. difficile* and Candida. The studies reviewed above took place in countries where traveler's diarrhea is common and show that *S. boulardii* can help reduce the duration of symptoms that can keep you from enjoying your vacation. *Dr. Scott Figueroa, ND, is available at The Peanut Mill Natural Foods Market on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10 to 6 to help guide you in your natural health choices. You may also contact him at his Niagara Falls clinic at 289.271.2788 or email info@hartandsol.com*

Mary-Maria Bourdeau, Alexandre Brillon, Ali Hand, Celeste Brillon, Robert Popoli, Abbigail Cryer and Ethan Gibbons have been chosen to perform at the Festival Concert of Stars Gala Friday evening at St. Mark's Church.

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Niagara-on-the-Lake Church Directory

Grace United Church
Victoria at Queen St. • Niagara-on-the-Lake
Minister: Rev. David Pritchard
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
Children's Program
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905-468-4044
www.graceunitedchurch.com
Wheelchair Access

GateWay Community Church (P.A.O.C.)
1665 Four Mile Creek Road • 905-468-8971
Sunday, February 24th 10:30 a.m.
February Theme:
The Bible: Still Relevant
Pastor Dave Tunikaitis Ministering
Starting Feb. 13th @ 7 pm ~ 'Not A Fan'
Video series: Challenging Christians to examine their relationship with Jesus
www.gatewaycc.ca: check here for events and podcasts.

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10:00 am Worship Service
Pastor Larry Ritter

Village
St. Davids Public School Meeting at 1344 York Road, St. Davids 289-296-9036
Sunday, February 24th
10:00am Coffee Time + 10:30am Worship Service
Village Kidz (ages 1 - grade 5)
ANXIETY: Anxiety of Failure
Pastor Greg Aldarton
www.villagebiblechurch.ca

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH
1570 Niagara Stone Rd.
www.ccchurch.ca • 905-468-7155
Sunday, February 24th
9:30 am: 1st Service & CE
(childcare provided during entire service),
10:30 am: Coffee Time; 11:00 am: 2nd Service
(childcare provided mid-way through service)
Message by: Kevin Bayne, Pastor
Title: Love, Even Though..... - Hosea 3

Niagara United Mennonite Church
"Called to be Servants of Christ In Our Community"
10:00 am German Service
Message by Udo Woelke
11:00 am Worship Service
Message by Pastor Rudy Dirks
"Healed Wounds"
Pastors: Rudy & Sharon Dirks, Stephen Cox
1775 Niagara Stone Road
905-468-3313
http://www.redbrickchurch.ca

ORCHARD PARK BIBLE CHURCH
www.orchardparkbiblechurch.org
434 Hunter Rd.
905-468-5731
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Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
Message by Pastor Jim Evans
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10:30am Choral Eucharist
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40 Winks 'staycation' funds programs for special needs children

NOTL hotel chain's popular event with locals sells out quickly and raises money for Red Roof Retreat's operating costs

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

It was a first for Christa Hawsthorne.

The respite care program director at Red Roof Retreat decided to take advantage of the fifth annual 40 Winks fundraiser at Niagara's Finest Inns, and for a much-reduced price, stayed overnight at the Shaw Hotel.

It was the Niagara-on-the-Lake native's first stay at a local hotel.

"I've lived in Niagara-on-the-Lake my whole live, and I've never stayed in a hotel in town. You just don't think about staying in a hotel in your own community, but I'm very glad I did. I really enjoyed it—I had a fantastic time."

She was staying with a group of friends who enjoyed a women's night out, away from family but not so far that there was any need to worry about them, she said.

The sta'ycation', says Ryan Murray, general manager of Harbour House Hotel, is becoming more popular with people who are choosing to stay in their own backyards and make use of the amenities in their home communities while taking a short vacation.

"Our 40 Winks event gives them an opportunity to do something they might not otherwise do, while also doing something good for their community."

"Our girls night was a wonderful, relaxing carefree time for all of us moms," says Hawsthorne.

"The rooms were gorgeous, and we had a blast."

Each year, says Murray, the event gets better, and raises more money for Red Roof Retreat, which provides quality recreational, educational and respite services to children, youth and young adults with special needs and their families.

It was November when Niagara's Finest Inns began taking reservations for their fifth annual 40 Winks charity event, offering guests a chance to spend a night at unbelievably low prices at all four of their hotels.

This year, reservations were handled a little differently to give more people an opportunity to snag a room at one of Niagara's Finest's three hotels.

When the booking began for last year's event, it took about half an hour to sell out the rooms at the Harbour House Hotel, The Charles Inn and Shaw Club, and the Colonel Butler Best Western was also full.

This year, the times for bookings was staggered and the prices were raised by $10, and the event was still a sell-out. It was the most successful year yet, with $7,500 raised, $500 more than last year.

Breakfast was again an added option, and all money-not just profits, but 100 per cent of the proceeds from that night and Friday's breakfast-was donated to Red Roof Retreat.

Part of the reason for the increase, said Murray, that the event was held Thursday, Feb. 7, and Friday was the morning residents woke up to a huge snowfall.

See Page 25

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PENNY COLES Niagara Advance

Ryan Murray, general manager of Niagara Finest Inn's Harbour House Hotel, has a cheque for $7,500 for Christa Hawsthorne of Red Roof Retreat.

Next fundraiser: rubber duck race

From Page 24

"I think more people chose to stay for breakfast than other years, rather than go out in the storm," he said.

The money helps offset operating costs, and this year will be directed toward offsetting the cost of weekend respite care, says executive director Steffanie Bjorgan.

"We look forward to this event every year, and we are so grateful to Niagara's Finest Inns for their continued support of the Red Roof Retreat," said Bjorgan, who started Red Roof almost a decade ago with her husband Moe.

"We believe Steffanie is doing something incredibly important," says Murray, of the work of Red Roof for special needs children, young adults and their families.

"The idea of the day programs is great, but really the idea of respite care is so important. Parenting in the best of situations is incredibly difficult, so for families with special needs kids to have a break is amazing."

Niagara's Finest has been holding annual fundraisers for Red Roof for almost a decade, beginning with Forks and Corks.

The first year the fundraiser was to help purchase a wheelchair-accessible van, the second year's funds going to a new surface for the playground.

"Helping Red Roof is a commitment of ours. It's the right thing for us to do and we feel good doing it," says Murray.

Their next fundraiser for Red Roof will be the first annual duck race, held on Red Roof property in May, once there is enough water running in the stream.

Five hundred little yellow rubber ducks will race to the finish to benefit Red Roof—adopt a duck for $10 or five for $25.

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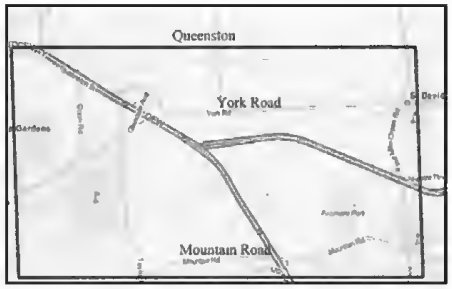
PUBLIC NOTICE

Glendale/Q.E.W./Highway 405 Planning Study Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Notice of Study Closure



In 2010, Niagara Region started a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process in accordance with Schedule 'C' of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (2011) to investigate opportunities for improvements to the transportation network in the Glendale/ Q.E.W./Highway 405 area. The study area is bounded approximately by the Welland Canal, Queenston Rd., Four Mile Creek Rd. and Mountain Rd., as shown on the map below, and includes interchanges between Glendale Ave., the Queen Elizabeth Way, and Highway 405.

Phases 1 and 2 of the EA process are complete, with the results presented to the public at a Public Information Centre in May, 2011. The results of Phases 1 and 2 are presented on the study web page at:

www.niagararegion.ca/living/roads/projects/glendale-qew-405/overview.aspx

Phases 3 and 4 of the EA process were initiated: however, the Region is issuing this Notice of Study Closure at this time in consideration of the following:

Updated future land use information indicates that development patterns in the study area will be significantly different from those used in Phases 1 and 2 of the study.

Under the Class EA process, capital works that have not been started within 10 years of the Notice of Completion must be reviewed and updated. Recognizing that key network improvements to address transportation needs identified in the current Class EA study are not likely to be required within the next 10 years, it is appropriate to conclude the current study at this time, while recognizing that the EA process may be resumed at a later date.

There is currently uncertainty with respect to certain factors which would influence the recommended configuration of key transportation improvements identified in the current Class EA study :

- Timing and extent of transportation improvements required to serve the retail outlet centre currently proposed for the southwest quadrant of the Glendale Ave. interchange.
- Timing and size of a potential park-and-ride transit hub.
- Timing and extent of repairs to/rehabilitation of the Glendale Ave. structure over the QEW
- Timing and extent of other potential new commercial developments or expansions in the study area

Next Steps

When there is greater certainty with respect to the factors mentioned above, the Class EA process may be resumed and/or combined with a potential parallel Ministry of Transportation EA process. At that time, information with respect to land use and other factors will be updated. Relevant information collected during the study and input provided by stakeholders and the public during the current Class EA study will be available for consideration

For you have any questions or comments, please contact:

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Project Manager
Niagara Region
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P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7
Phone: 905-685-4225, Ext. 3400
Fax: 905-685-0013
jillian.stephen@niagararegion.ca

Information has been collected in accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

This Notice first issued Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013.

Niagara Region

/niagararegion www.niagararegion.ca @niagararegion

Home show to finance new playground for little ones at Crossroads

Fifth annual event the largest yet with 93 exhibitors at Crossroads Public School

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

It's an event that has evolved and grown, now offering more than 90 exhibitors from around the region in one location.

The fifth annual Niagara-on-the-Lake Home Show will showcase products and services for home and garden, financial and personal service experts will be on hand, and direct-sales vendors will be displaying their latest products.

The history of the show goes back to the final years of Colonel John Butler School, which has now been amalgamated with the former Virgil Public School at Crossroads Public School.

The first home show was organized by Butler parents as a fundraiser, and was small in comparison, with a few home party sales representatives gathering to display and sell their products.

The next year was the same, with about 42 vendors.

The third year, with the amalgamation of the schools looming and playground equipment needed for the new school then under construction, the home show was moved to the former Niagara District Secondary School, where is was able to expand, with both schools taking part.

This will be the biggest event yet, the second held at Crossroads, and with 93 vendors it's as big as it's going to get, says organizer Nancy Voogt.

Last year 1,700 people attended the show, and it was no problem getting vendors to return, she says.

The school has three classes of Kindergarten, plus day care students, says Voogt, and the money raised from this year's home show will go toward new playground equipment specifically for the youngest students.

"It will be good to have a playground just for the Kindergarten kids,' says Voogt. "They're so little."

It will also be a community playground, she says.

Last year's home show topped $19,000, and with more vendors and increased sponsorship this year's goal is to reach $20,000, says Voogt.

The home show is Saturday, March 2, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Crossroads Public School in Virgil.

There will be a barbecue, silent auction, draws and a bake sale.

For more information visit Crossroads Public School website, the NOTL Home Show facebook page or call 905-468-7793.

Last year's NOTL Home Show at Crossroads Public School saw 1,700 people go through the doors and topped $19,000. With more vendors and sponsorship this year organizers have set a $20,000 goal for the March 1 event, but hope to beat that.

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Family Day fun

Grandparents and parents were out with the little ones at the Meridian Credit Union Arena Monday, enjoying Family Day. The arena was crowded with skaters of all ages—these young ones were on skates for the first time. Nicole Quait, her brother Matt Saarinen, and grandparents Vera and Jukka Saarinen were helping the four youngsters, cousins Alexis Quait, Jacob Saarinen, Olivia Saarinen and Jordyn Quait, taking their beginners' laps on the ice. The afternoon family skate was sponsored by Family and Children's Services Niagara, which celebrated Family Day by paying for ice time at arenas across the region.

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Community, local businesses rally as cancer strikes tot again

Dan Dakin
QMI Agency Niagara

He was shy at first, but then came the smile.

It's the smile that makes everyone else smile, too.

Standing there in front of little Rowan Langille was the guy whose name is on his favourite hockey stick. The guy who he watches playing his favourite sport on television. The guy who is easily his favourite player in the NHL.

Sidney Crosby crouched down to be at eye level with the four-year-old boy fighting cancer that started in his brain and has spread to his spine and the two smiled.

It was a special moment for everyone in the room.

"We've got some real Penguins fans here," Crosby said as he looked at Rowan and his three siblings – all of whom were wearing Pittsburgh ball caps or had some piece of Penguins gear on them.

> **"We've got some real Penguins fans here."**
>
> *— NHL Penguin Sidney Crosby, referring to four-year-old Rowan Langille and his three siblings*

"What do you think Rowan, should I sign their stuff, too?" Crosby asked with a laugh.

The private meet and greet with Sid the Kid was the highlight of a memorable day for the St. Catharines boy and his family.

"It meant a lot," said Rowan's mother Ann Langille, who along with her husband Shawn has been dealing with her son's disease since he was 18 months old. "He had a huge smile on his face. It was wonderful."

Knowing Pittsburgh was the NHL team of choice in the Langille household, family friend, real estate agent and Niagara-on-the-Lake native Karl Regier put the call out looking for tickets to be donated to Sunday's game between the Penguins and Sabres in Buffalo.

Modern Landfill and Walker Industries both offered up their 10 season tickets. Niagara Classic Transport, also of NOTL, donated a limousine bus for the day and Boston Pizza threw in dinner for the group when they returned to St. Catharines.

But to make things a bit more special for the terminally ill Rowan and his family, the St. Catharines Standard contacted the media relations staffs for the Penguins and Sabres to see if a personal meeting might be an option.

See Page 29

For both sides of the brain.

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Fort Erie Location:	Royal Cdn Legion Br 71, 130 Garrison Rd Fort Erie, Lower Parking Lot **Thursday, March 7th & Friday, March 8th** **10:00am - 3:00pm**
Niagara Falls & Niagara-on-the-Lake Location:	2895 St. Paul Avenue, Unit #11 **Thursday March 14th only** **10:00am - 3:00pm**
Who Qualifies:	Singles: Annual Income $25,000 or less Couples: Annual Income $35,000 or less

Appointments are necessary. Please call before Mar 1, 2013.

Fort Erie: 905-871-9991
(for both Fort Erie and Niagara Falls appointments)

To the community of volunteers who make this program possible by donating their time and assistance to provide this valuable service to the community, Thank You - Rob Nicholson MP

'He had a good day'

From Page 28

Though Crosby typically doesn't meet fans before a game – especially an afternoon game – he read Rowan's story and wanted to meet him.

There wasn't enough time for a post-game meeting, so he made an exception and spent 10 minutes with the family Sunday morning at First Niagara Center in Buffalo.

"To see his smiling face today was great."

— Shawn Langille, Rowan's father

Rowan's father Shawn said his son is a true Crosby fanatic.

"Sometimes you pick favourites and drop favourites, but he has stuck with him," Shawn said. "That's his player."

Adding to the day, the crew from the Niagara office of Peninsula Towing and the Department of Sport Management Alumni Advisory Board at Brock University donated enough money to pay for the family's breakfast after the meeting, as well as snacks and souvenirs at the game.

Once the game started, Sabres staff delivered a puck signed earlier in the day by goalie Ryan Miller and Buffalo mascot Sabretooth stopped by for a visit.

For Rowan, sister Jocelyn, 12, and brothers Nathan and Logan, 10 and seven, respectively, it was an unforgettable day.

"He was having a good time – he was laughing, smiling and goofing around," Shawn Langille said.

"He had a good day, which is great."

At times, when the pain in his back got to be too much, Rowan simply wanted his dad to pull him out of his wheelchair and hold him.

"I do everything I can to get him comfortable," Shawn said.

When the tumour moved from Rowan's brain to his spine and began to grow, it crushed his spinal cord.

After having surgery five weeks ago he was given less than a 50% chance of ever walking again, and doctors told Shawn and Ann that worst-case scenario could be that their son would be dead in three weeks.

Just like the green rubber wristbands are telling him to do, Rowan keeps fighting.

"To see his smiling face today was great," said Shawn.

"We're trying just to keep him happy and occupied ... we're trying to do the most we can to have fun with him."

Dan Dakin QMI Agency Niagara

Pittsburgh Penguins star Sidney Crosby signs an autograph for four-year-old Rowan Langille before Sunday's Penguins at Sabres game in Buffalo. Crosby met Langille and his family after learning about the boy's terminal cancer.

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Dr.Gifford Jones
The Doctor Game

How can The Harvard Medical School, my alma mater, be so backward about heart attack?

It's apparent its researchers never heard Linus Pauling when he countered critics with "It's the dosage, idiots."

Fortunately, a new remedy, Medi-C Plus, allows readers to benefit from Harvard's error.

The Harvard study involved 15,000 healthy male doctors. Half were given a multivitamin pill, the others a placebo. Dr. Howard Sesso of Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital reports that after 11 years of study, there was no difference between the two groups in rate of heart attack, stroke, heart failure or chest pain.

What amazes me about the Harvard study is how researchers could waste 11 years studying a project doomed to failure. The multivitamin used contained only 75 milligrams (mg) of vitamin C. This amount is potent enough to prevent scurvy. But prescribing 75 mg of vitamin C to prevent coronary attack is like trying to kill an elephant with a BB gun.

Pauling reported years ago that it requires several thousand milligrams of vitamin C, along with the amino acid lysine, to prevent coronary attack. Pauling also reminded us that animals produce thousands of mgs of vitamin C daily but humans lost this ability eons ago. This inability to make vitamin sets up humans for heart attack and stroke. Increased vitamin C has been proven to prevent this.

Vitamin C makes coronary arteries strong. As mortar binds bricks together, coronary cells are glued together by collagen. But it requires high doses of vitamin C and lysine to produce strong collagen. And just as steel rods provide extra strength to concrete, lysine increases the power of collagen.

Dr. William Stehbens, Professor of Pathology at Auckland University in New Zealand, reported years ago that Pauling was right. Stehbens emphasized that coronary arteries are under more pressure than any other arteries in the body. After all, they're situated in the heart's muscle, not in the big toe. Moreover they're under constant pressure while the heart beats 100,000 times every 24 hours, or 37 million times a year, and 2.2 billion times if you live to 70 years of age.

Without sufficient Vitamin C and lysine this constant pounding causes minute cracks in collagen, resulting in blood clots and possible death. Or a weakened artery breaks, causing a stroke.

Dr. Sydney Bush, an English researcher, should be eligible for the Nobel Prize for his finding. Bush took photos of the retina (back part of the eye), then prescribed large doses of vitamin C and lysine. One year later, photos showed that narrowed arteries were gradually restored to normal.

These historic findings are ignored by cardiologists and, sad to say, even by The Harvard Medical School. But medical consumers should benefit from this research when the facts are so valid. I bet my own life on vitamin C and lysine following a coronary attack 15 years ago. But I hated swallowing so many pills every day.

A year ago I persuaded Preferred Nutrition, a health food company, to develop a combination powder of vitamin C and lysine. It's now available at health food stores. A flat scoop of powder contains 2,000 mg of C and 1,300 mg of lysine. It should be taken twice a day with meals, or three times daily if there's a history of heart disease. If diarrhea occurs, the dose should be reduced.

Always check with your doctor before changing or starting medication.

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Sports

Editor Penny Coles
905–468–3283 ext. 103 penny.coles@sunmedia.ca

Peewee Wolves lose, win and tie in U.S.

Niagara-on-the-Lake's peewee Wolves traveled across the border this weekend to play in the President's Day Challenge Cup Tournament, winning a game, losing one and tieing one.

The St Davids Storage Team faced a tough A team and battled hard for two periods with a nice goal by Robbie Falk assisted by Caleb McCarthy but suffered a 5-1 loss.

After changing a few things the Niagara team stepped back on the ice the next morning facing a Canadian A team from Milton.

This hockey game was pure back to back edge of your seat entertainment. Nick Frendo opened up the game scoring assisted by Haiden O'Toole. Forty seconds after Robbie Falk received a beautiful pass from Frendo and O'Toole firing the puck top right corner puting the Wolves in the lead. Milton kept the pressure up with a few goals but team leader Haiden O'Toole put Niagara ahead once again late in the second period. Just prior to the end of the second period Milton tied the game and both teams battled hard for the entire third period as the game remained tied with a final score of 3-3.

Late Sunday evening the Niagara Irrigation sponsored team played outstanding against a Peewee team from Toronto winning 10-0.

See Page 32

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Rangers bantam girls bring home gold

The Niagara Rangers bantam girls basketball team captured the gold medal this past weekend at a tournament in Cambridge.

It was third time lucky for the Rangers who won bronze and silver at this tournament in 2011 and 2012 respectively.

The team's march to the championship began with a convincing 55-32 Friday night win over Midland.

Saturday saw the Rangers' season best defensive effort in defeating St. Thomas 34-8 and a determined second half surge to finally wrestle the gold from a much improved London CYO squad 45-28.

Key to the Rangers' victory was their now trademark swarming full court team defence that harassed opposing guards and led to countless front court turnovers and transition baskets. Offensively the one-two-three punch of Rachel Frena, Hailey Matovic and Beth DeBoer proved too much for any team to handle especially given the rebounding support this deadly trio was provided by the aggressive and athletic play of forwards Jeniah Wiens and Alexis Smith.

First year forward Katie Van Egmond anchored the Rangers tough defense and showed continued improvement on the offensive side. The other Katies, Dunn and Caughill delivered key minutes in each game, Dunn with her heads up ball reversals and Caughill with numerous slicing steals from the wing. Carrie Robinson was a shot-blocking machine and provided some pretty baskets along the way while the dynamic duo of Morgan Buis and Mackenzie Brown easily cut through opponent pressure time and again and showed great tenacity in attacking the basket.

Also of note was the team's improved free throw shooting percentage which coaching staff attributes to the adoption of a dedicated shooting practice last season.

Next up for the Rangers at the Crossroads gym are the ever tough Pelham Panthers Feb. 27 followed by the Rangers' own March 8 and 9 War of 1812 tournament involving teams from across the province.

Niagara Rangers bantam girls take home the gold medal in Cambridge.

Van Noort bantams sweep weekend games in first round of playoffs

Niagara-on-the-Lake Minor Hockey Association Minor Hockey's Van Noort bantams came up with two hard-fought wins in their first playoff games this weekend.

Saturday night, they had an away game against Grimsby. Despite being significantly short staffed with only nine skaters and a goalie, they were able to come through with a 4-3 victory.

Leading the way, with three goals and one assist was Jake Vanderveen. The fourth and winning goal was scored by Bowen Neufeld, with a beautiful top corner shot. Nick VanEgmond earned two assists, while Isaac Hendriks and Mitchell Davies both had one assist each. VanEgmond and Hudson Neufeld, with assistance from Vanderveen and Hendriks, were strong on defence, while Kyle Mokren was a standout in goal. Mark Dyck, Matt Puglisi and Matthew Caston provided consistent hard work in the corners to keep the play in the opposing end and contribute to the hard-earned win.

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District playoffs start for Niagara peewee Wolves

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Great passing and beautiful plays were made by the entire team with goals scored Zack Mori with a hat trick, Robbie Falk and Michael Sanders with two each and Caleb McCarthy , Nick Frendo and Colin Pederson with nice singles. Assist for all the goals were Brock Gula, Mitchel Brown, Bosten Parliament,Matt Vandelaar, and Haiden O'Toole.

Goaltender Austyn Werstroh played outstanding behind the pipes for all three games, earning his first shut out.

The Niagara peewee Wolves now start their district playoffs and have a final tounament mid March.

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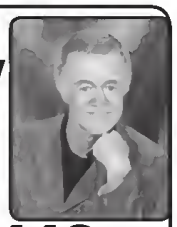

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Birthdays

Birthdays

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NOTL Community Centre
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Births

Births

HAMM - Tim and Shannon (Leduc) are thrilled to announce the birth of their son on Sunday, December 30, 2012.
Warren George was born in Surrey BC and weighed in at 8lb 1oz. First grandchild for George and Pauline Leduc of Surrey and third grandchild (first grandson) for Jurgen and Marilyn Hamm of Virgil.

Coming Events

Coming Events

FRIDAY, February 22, 5:00 to 7:00 pm. **CHILI SUPPER.** Christ Church McNab Parish Hall, corner of McNab and Lakeshore Roads, (3 km east of the canal). Adults: $10, Children: 5-12: $5, Under 5 - Free. Info: **905-934-2211 / 905-646-2417.**

Friday, March 1st ~ 1:30 pm
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Obituaries

Obituaries

ISTCHENKO, Alexander - 1916-2013 - Passed away peacefully on Saturday February 16, 2013 at the St. Catharines General Hospital, in his 97th year. Beloved husband of the late Else (nee Reimer) (2012). Survived by his six children, Luise Penner (Wes), Irma Purchase (Wayne), Eddy (Rhoda), Alex (Marg), Victor (Muffy) and Wally (Catherine). He will be missed by all who knew him, especially his 15 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and sister-in-law Liesel Schulz (John), and nephews Henry Froese (Jane) and Waldemar Reimer (Margaret). The family is especially grateful for the compassionate care provided by Dr. Gruber. We would also like to thank the staff at Chateau Gardens for their care. The family will receive friends at **MORGAN FUNERAL HOME,** 415 Regent St., Niagara-on-the-Lake, on Friday, February 22, 2013 from 7-9 p.m. A service to celebrate Alexander's life will be held at the funeral home on Saturday, February 23, 2013 at 3 p.m. Interment to follow at Niagara Lakeshore Cemetery. For those who wish, a memorial donation may be made to either Heart & Stroke Foundation or to a charity of their choice. Condolences, memories and photos may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com

A Memorial Donation has been made to
Morgan Funeral Home Community Fund

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Skaters get ready for STARskate Championships

NOTL Skating Club skaters have been busy attending Invitational competitions in preparation for the Western Ontario STARSkate Championships to be held Feb 22 to 24 at Aylmer.

The top three skaters of each qualifying event from these championships will be eligible to compete at the Skate Ontario STARSkate Championships hosted by the Niagara Region in Fort Erie March 22 to 24.

Congratulations to Juvenile competitive skater Natalie Li. She was invited to try out and was selected to the "Centre of Excellence" team. This Skate Canada Western Ontario initiative has a long term goal of developing skaters for National and International competitions.

Results from the Dennis Silverthorne Memorial Invitational in Dorchester Feb 1 to 3 are as follows:

Kelly Hunter - Silver Triathlon - 1st place, Angelina Maniatis - WO Development Level 1 - 1st, Annelise Perron - STARSkate Junior Bronze - 1st, Hailey Gaio - STARSkate Junior Silver - 2nd, Michael Karasinski - Pre-Novice Men Short and Long Programs - 2nd, Kyra Marotta - WO Development Level 2 - 2nd, Kelly Hunter - STARSkate Junior Silver - 3rd, Natalie Li - Juvenile Ladies - 4th, Lexie Madsen - STARSkate Senior Bronze - 5th, Cierra Perron - STARSkate Junior Bronze - 5th, Kristen Dortono - Novice Ladies - 9th, Hailey Gaio - Bronze Triathlon - 10th, Taylor McLachlan - STARSkate Junior Bronze - 10th.

It was a successful weekend for 16 skaters from the NOTL Skating Club who travelled to the Charles Dover Memorial Invitational competition held in Grimsby Jan. 11 to 13.

Rachael Hunter, STARSkate Pre-Preliminary - 1st, Alyssa Hunter, STARSkate Preliminary - 2nd, Kyra Marotta, WO Development Level 2 - 2nd, Marin McLaughlin, STARSkate Pre-Preliminary - 2nd, Madison McLean, WO Pre-Preliminary - 2nd, Kelly Hunter, STARSkate Junior Silver - 3rd, Angelina Maniatis, WO Development Level 1 - 3rd, Abby Johnstone, STARSkate Preliminary - 4th, Lexie Madsen, STARSkate Senior Bronze - 4th, Annelise Perron - STARSkate Junior Bronze - 4th, Tess Roberts-Ramos - WO Pre-Preliminary - 4th, Avery Royer, STARSkate Pre-Preliminary - 6th, Kristin Cripps, WO Pre-Preliminary - 8th, Taylor McLachlan, STARSkate Junior Bronze - 8th, Hailey Gaio, STARSkate Junior Silver - 9th, Cierra Perron, STARSkate Junior Bronze - 13th.

Hailey Gaio also attended the Pat Abela/Lyle McPhedran Memorial Invitational competition in Amherstburg Jan. 18 to 20. She entered the Bronze Triathlon event placing 4th overall.

Members of the NOTL Skating Club return from the Dennis Silverthorne Memorial Invitational in Dorchester with good results, including some first-place medals.

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Strong goaltending leads Van Noort to double wins

From Page 32

The second game, on Sunday, was at home against the Pelham team. Once again, they were able to defeat the opposing team with a 4-3 result. Scoring for the Niagara-on-the-Lake team were Hendriks, with two goals, Vanderveen, with a goal and an assist, and Caston, who scored the game winning goal early in the third period.

Puglisi earned an assist on the final goal. Graeme Lett, Jake Eadie and Bowen Neufeld were steady on defence and able to keep the opposition scoreless after this, and also while the NOTL team was two men short in the second period.

Excellent goaltending was provided once again by Mokren.

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71 Tanbark Road **$899,999**

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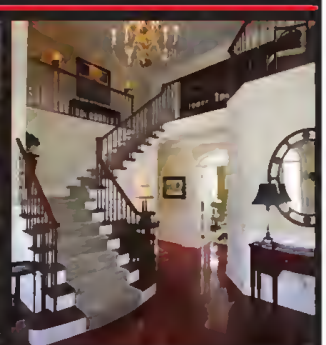

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